

Amendments to the Specification

Replace the paragraph starting on page 1 at line 9 with the following:

Conventional turn indicators (winkers, there in after) on a vehicle ~~has the~~ have flasher lamps provided on both sides of the vehicle and are operated by a winker switch when turning to the left and the right. ~~While a~~ A pair of lights as a monitor for monitoring an action of the winkers are also provided on the operation panel in front of a driver. Thus, the monitor allows the driver to acknowledge the action of the winker lamps.

Replace the paragraph starting on page 2 at line 8 with the following:

As a small and low-speed electric vehicle has commonly no roof and its operation panel is exposed to the sun light, the winker monitor may be viewed with much difficulty. For compensation, a buzzer may be employed for emitting a buzzer sound responding to the action of the winkers to support the visual display of monitoring. It is yet found difficult to perceive the buzzer sound when a noise source exists in the environment. Particularly, as aged or handicapped persons are ~~disadvantageous~~ disadvantaged in ~~[[the]]~~ hearing and ~~[[the]]~~ sight for ~~recognition of~~ recognizing moving objects, they may fail to acknowledge the action of the winkers which involves simply the sequential lit-up action of the LED lamps and the emission of a buzzer sound and ~~[[if]]~~ even worse, may leave the winker switch not turned off.

Replace the paragraph starting on page 4 at line 14 with the following:

The second feature allows all the indicator lamps to be temporarily turned off just after being fully lit up. As there is a large difference in the intensity of light between ~~the entire~~ all lamps being turned off and ~~the entire~~ all lamps being lit up, the driver can more assuredly be notified of the winkers' action.

Replace the paragraph starting on page 4 at line 20 with the following:

Fig. 1 is a plan view of a steering handle provided in an electric vehicle showing an embodiment of the present invention;

Fig. 2 is a perspective view of the electric vehicle of the embodiment;

Fig. 3 illustrates an indication of the amount of battery charge on the indicator;

~~Fig. 4 illustrates~~ Figs. 4A and 4B illustrate an indication of the wipers' action on the indicator;

Fig. 5 is a block diagram of a controller in the winker system; and

Fig. 6 is a flowchart showing a procedure of main actions in the indicator controller.

Replace the paragraph starting on page 5 at line 8 with the following:

The present invention will be described in more detail referring to the accompanied drawings. Fig. 2 is a view from the right rear of an electric vehicle illustrating one embodiment of the present invention. As shown, the electric vehicle 1 is a motor driven four-wheel vehicle or more precisely an electric vehicle for ~~[[a]]~~ an aged person which can run at as the maximum speed as 6 km/hour. The electric vehicle 1 has a main vehicle frame 2 consisted mainly of a front portion 2a, a rear portion 2b, and a step 2c. The front portion 2a holds a pair of left and right front wheels 3 (the left wheel not shown). A steering post 4 is linked to the front wheels 3 as extends upwardly from the front portion 2a. ~~[[a]]~~ A steering handle 6 having an operation panel 5 is mounted to the top of the steering post 4. A pair of wipers 7R and 7L are provided on both, left and right, ends of the front portion 2a of the vehicle frame 2. The wipers 7R and 7L include winker lamps which are lit up separately for intermittent illumination responding to handling a winker switch as will described later. Also, an indicator is provided on the operation

panel 5 for indicating the action of the wipers 7R and 7L. The steering handle 6 and the operation panel 5 will also be explained later in more detail, referring to Fig. 1.

Replace the paragraph starting on page 7 at line 19 with the following:

~~Figs. 3 and 4~~, 4A, and 4B illustrate ~~lightning~~ lighting patterns of the LED lamps 20 on the indicator 19. Fig. 3 is the battery power indication of the LED 20 showing lighting patterns which represent the remaining power or charge amount (in percentage of the full charge). The higher the remaining power of the battery, the more number the LED lamps 20 are lit up. The lower the remaining power, the less number the LED lamps 20 are lit up. When only one of the LED lamps 20 is lit indicating almost exhaustion of the battery charge, an alarm may preferably be displayed. For example of the alarm, leaving one of the LED lamps 20 turn on, turn on and off its neighbor one to indicate the battery charge amount is extremely low.

Replace the paragraph starting on page 8 at line 6 with the following:

~~Fig. 4 illustrates~~ Figs. 4A and 4B illustrate patterns of the winker indication of the LED lamps 20 determined by the operation of the winker switch 14. Upon the winker switch 14 turned on, the winker lamps 7 start illuminating one pattern. More specifically, the action of the LED lamps 20 on the indicator 19 shifts from the battery charge amount indication to the winker indication.

Replace the paragraph starting on page 8 at line 13 with the following:

When the winker switch 14 is turned on for indicating the right turn of the vehicle, five of the LED lamps 20 start being lit up incrementally in a sequence as denoted by the arrow R in Fig.

4A. Starting with their leftmost one in the row, the LED lamps 20 are lit up in an incremental sequence from the left to the right. In other words, the row of the lit up LED lamps 20 is increasingly extended towards the right. Just after ~~being lit up~~ all five are lit up, all of the LED lamps 20 are turned off as shown with five all white circle at the bottom of Fig. 4A. Then, starting again with the state shown at the top of Fig. 4A where their leftmost lamp in the row, then the LED lamps 20 are lit up in an incremental sequence from the left to the right. The sequential action of the LED lamps 20 being lit up from the left to the right and then turned off all is repeated while the winker switch 14 remains turned on for indicating the right turn of the vehicle.

Replace the paragraph starting on page 9 at line 4 with the following:

Similarly, when the winker switch 14 is turned on for indicating the left turn of the vehicle, the LED lamps 20 start being lit up incrementally in a sequence as denoted by the arrow L in Fig. 4B. Starting with their rightmost one in the row, the LED lamps 20 are lit up in an incremental sequence from the right to the left. In other words, the row of the lit-up LED lamps 20 is increasingly extended towards the left. Just after ~~being lit up~~ all five are lit up, all of the LED lamps 20 are turned off. Then, starting again with their rightmost one in the row, the LED lamps 20 are lit up in an incremental sequence from the right to the left. The sequential action of the LED lamps 20 being lit up from the right to the left and then turned off all is repeated while the winker switch 14 remains turned on for indicating the left turn.

Replace the paragraph starting on page 12 at line 15 with the following:

As set forth above, the features of the present invention ~~defined in claims 1 through 3~~ allow the indicator lamps to be lit up in an incremental sequence towards the direction to which the vehicle is steered in response to the winkers' action. This allows the driver to acknowledge the action of the indicator lamps with giving a glance while carefully staring in the front direction. Also, as the winker lit-up indication is repeated, its visual effect can be improved.

Replace the paragraph starting on page 12 at line 23 with the following:

[[The]] Another feature of the present invention ~~defined in claim 2~~ allows the indicator lamps to be turned off after the entire lighting on and then lit up again one after another in an incremental sequence. Accordingly, as the difference between the lit up and the turned off of the indicator lamps is emphasized, the indication of the winkers' action can highly be effected.